

C M H C INFECTION CONTROL POLICY MANUAL	Effective Date: 10/13/16	NUMBER: B-14.42
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FOOD HANDLERS		

POLICY

Offenders and staff will not work as food handlers when they may transmit a disease transmissible through food.

PROCEDURES

- I. Offenders must be **excluded** from work in the kitchen, dining room or other food establishment if they have:
 - A. An illness caused by *Salmonella typhii* currently or within the past 3 months.
 - B. An illness caused by *Shigella* spp. currently or within the past month.
 - C. An illness caused by *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 or other entero-hemorrhagic *E. coli* currently or within the past month.
 - D. Acute hepatitis A with onset within the past 2 weeks or until jaundice resolves, whichever is later.
 - E. A positive culture for, or an illness caused by norovirus currently or within the past 2 weeks.
 - F. A positive stool culture for *S. typhii*, *Shigella* spp. or *E. coli* O157:H7, with or without symptoms.
 - G. Is experiencing symptoms such as:
 1. Diarrhea
 2. Fever
 3. Vomiting
 4. Jaundice
 5. Sore throat with fever
 6. A pus-containing lesion such as a boil or draining wound.
 - H. Lives in the same cell or dormitory as an offender diagnosed with a condition listed in I.A - I.E above.
- II. Except for follow-up cultures required for clearance to return to work, the decision to take stool cultures should be based on clinical judgment. Asymptomatic offenders do not need to have stool cultures taken to clear them for working in food services.
- III. If the offender has had a positive stool culture for a gastrointestinal pathogen listed in I.A-I.C, above, he may not return to food service work until the symptoms have resolved, the appropriate time has passed (see I.A - I.C above) and a negative stool culture has been documented. If the offender has had a positive

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stool for norovirus he may not return to food service work until any symptoms have been resolved for at least 24 hours and at least 2 weeks has elapsed since the positive stool.

- IV.** If an offender meets any of the exclusionary criteria listed in section I, the HSM-18 should be updated to reflect the work restriction until he is medically cleared to return to food service work.

Reference:

1. Texas Food Establishment Rules, 25 TAC § 228, October 2015.